Biblically responding to pro-abortion challenges

First thoughts:

Hearts must change before society changes.

Henry Van Til once observed that "culture is religion externalized."

Woodrow Kroll (Back to the Bible) has stated that 'In the course of human history, no change in society has been made without the life change produced by the gospel.'

Honesty

- "The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity." Proverbs 11:3
- "Keep your <u>behavior excellent among</u> the <u>Gentiles</u>, <u>so</u> that in the thing in <u>which</u> they <u>slander</u> you as <u>evildoers</u>, they may <u>because</u> of your <u>good deeds</u>, as they <u>observe</u> them, <u>glorify God</u> in the <u>day</u> of visitation." I Peter 2:12
- "Now we pray to God that you do no wrong; not that we ourselves may appear approved, but that you may do what is right, even though we may appear unapproved." 2 Corinthians 13:7 (prayer)
- "Moreover, they did not <u>require</u> an <u>accounting</u> from the <u>men</u> into <u>whose hand</u> they <u>gave</u> the <u>money</u> to <u>pay</u> to those who did the <u>work</u>, for they dealt <u>faithfully</u>. " 2 Kings 12:15 (the issue isn't money, but if it were)

Good witness – bearing testimony to someone or something

"Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun." Ps. 37:1-6

"Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God."

3 John 11

Suffering

For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly.

For <u>what credit</u> is there <u>if</u>, when you <u>sin</u> and are <u>harshly treated</u>, you <u>endure</u> it with <u>patience</u>? But <u>if</u> when you <u>do</u> what is <u>right</u> and <u>suffer</u> for it you <u>patiently endure</u> it, <u>this</u> finds <u>favor</u> with <u>God</u>.

For you have been <u>called</u> for <u>this</u> purpose, <u>since Christ also</u> <u>suffered</u> for you, <u>leaving</u> you an <u>example</u> for you to <u>follow</u> in His steps,

WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH;

and while being <u>reviled</u>, He did not <u>revile</u> in <u>return</u>; while <u>suffering</u>, He <u>uttered</u> <u>no</u> <u>threats</u>, but kept <u>entrusting</u> Himself to Him who judges righteously;

I Peter 2:19-23 – do what is right. Flee from borderline living or close to the edge honesty.

Integrity (Moral uprightness)

Examples:

Daniel - Then these men said, "We will not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel unless we find it against him with regard to the law of his God." Dan. 6:5

Paul "but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." 2 Cor. 4:2

Integrity is defined as the "courage to be moral: (see Who You Are When No One's Looking by Bill Hybels)

Presenting Christ is the number one goal, not eradicating abortion

I Peter 3:13-18

Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous or what is good?

But <u>even if</u> you should <u>suffer</u> for the <u>sake</u> of <u>righteousness</u>, you are <u>blessed</u>. AND DO NOT <u>FEAR</u> THEIR <u>INTIMIDATION</u>, AND DO NOT BE <u>TROUBLED</u>,

but <u>sanctify Christ</u> as <u>Lord</u> in your <u>hearts</u>, <u>always</u> being <u>ready</u> to make a <u>defense</u> to <u>everyone</u> who <u>asks</u> you to give an <u>account</u> for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;

and <u>keep</u> a <u>good conscience</u> <u>so</u> that in the thing in <u>which</u> you are <u>slandered</u>, <u>those</u> who <u>revile</u> your <u>good behavior</u> in <u>Christ</u> will be put to shame .

For it is <u>better</u>, <u>if God</u> should <u>will</u> it so, that you <u>suffer</u> for <u>doing</u> what is <u>right rather than</u> for <u>doing</u> what is <u>wrong</u>.

For <u>Christ also died</u> for <u>sins once</u> for <u>all</u>, the <u>just</u> for the <u>unjust</u>, <u>so</u> that He might <u>bring</u> us to <u>God</u>, having been <u>put</u> to <u>death</u> in the <u>flesh</u>, but <u>made alive</u> in the <u>spirit</u>;

Final thoughts: Actions speak louder than words: Thomas Aquinas – 'Preach the gospel.. sometimes use words'

For further reading: see the pamphlet: "Serving Clients with Care and Integrity" (available upon request)

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